



NEWS RELEASE

City of South Fulton Government

Department of Communications and External Affairs

Media Contact:

Darius Goodman, Media Relations Specialist

(470) 401-7268 – darius.goodman@cityofsouthfultonga.gov

5440 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, SW Atlanta, GA 30336

www.cityofsouthfultonga.gov

Facebook – COSF17 / Twitter – #COSFGA / Instagram – @cosfga

South Fulton Approves Purchase of \$1.1 Million Ladder Truck

(CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA – February 22, 2022) – City of South Fulton officials filled an urgent request today to replace part of the city’s aging fleet of fire trucks with the approval of a new \$1.1 million ladder truck.

The city currently operates two ladder trucks, both of which are 25 years old and have failed operation tests in the last year. One of the trucks is repairable, while the other is not.

“Build time for a ladder truck is 18-months and, due to the need, the city is buying a demo model that can be up and running in the next month,” Fire Chief Chad Jones said. “We will be pursuing purchasing another model at the end of this year.”

In 2019, city officials commissioned Georgia Tech of staffing and equipment needs as well as optimal organization of its police and fire departments. Based on South Fulton’s population and 84 square miles of land, the study recommended the city have five ladder trucks.

Five ladder trucks also are required for the city to achieve its goal of an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of one. ISO ratings designate cities which are better prepared, which also means improved insurance rates for residents.

Beyond saving money, ladders trucks are key to minimizing injuries during fires at buildings three stories or taller. Jones said firefighters are better able to access rooftops or people trapped by a fire.

“Ground ladders can only do so much. Would you rather fight a fire from a sturdy apparatus or from a ladder leaned against a wall,” he asked. “Ladders trucks help us improve safety and save the lives of firefighters and residents.”

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The new truck is expected to be placed into service in March. It will be housed at Station 11 on Fulton Industrial Boulevard.

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About the City of South Fulton

Home to nearly 108,000 residents, the City of South Fulton is Georgia's fifth-largest city. It covers more than 85 square miles and features both urban and rural landscapes with the most undeveloped land on metro Atlanta's southern side. Incorporated on May 1, 2017, South Fulton is among Georgia's youngest and fastest-growing cities – on the rise and recognized as the place you want to be. Learn more, download our smartphone app and connect with us on social media at cityofsouthfultonga.gov.